

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Month of the Military Child

WHEREAS, thousands of brave Americans, including many Rhode Islanders, have demonstrated their courage and commitment to freedom by serving in our country's armed forces in Active, Guard and Reserve duty posts around the state, nation and world; and

WHEREAS, many of these service members have left families and children behind during their deployments; and

WHEREAS, over 5,000 Rhode Island children have at least one parent currently serving on Active, Guard or Reserve duty, over 3,000 of those children are of schoolage; and

WHEREAS, the Month of the Military Child provides an opportunity to pay tribute to Rhode Island's military children for their commitment, struggles and unconditional support of our troops; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim April, 2013 as the Month of the Military Child in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this month.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this _/874 day of March, 2013

Lincoln D. Chafee Governor

A. Ralph Mollis Secretary of State